

104TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 85

To provide for greater disclosure of and accountability for Federal
Government travel.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 4, 1995

Mr. KANJORSKI introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight, and in addition to the Committees on House Oversight and the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To provide for greater disclosure of and accountability for
Federal Government travel.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Federal Travel Disclo-
5 sure Act of 1995”.

1 **SEC. 2. APPROPRIATIONS FOR FEDERAL GOVERNMENT**
2 **TRAVEL.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provi-
4 sion of law, no Federal funds may be obligated or ex-
5 pended for Federal Government travel, other than from
6 amounts specifically appropriated by law for such purpose.
7 Except as provided in subsection (b), no Federal depart-
8 ment, agency, or entity may expend funds for the travel
9 expenses of any individual who is employed by any other
10 Federal department, agency, or entity.

11 (b) REIMBURSABLE TRAVEL.—A Federal depart-
12 ment, agency, or entity may expend funds for the travel
13 expenses of an individual who is employed by another Fed-
14 eral department, agency, or entity if it is reimbursed by
15 the individual or the travel account of the individual's em-
16 ploying department, agency, or entity.

17 **SEC. 3. TRAVEL SUPERVISORS.**

18 (a) EXECUTIVE BRANCH AND INDEPENDENT AGEN-
19 CIES.—Except as provided in subsections (b) and (c), the
20 head of each department, agency, or entity of the Govern-
21 ment shall designate a travel supervisor for that depart-
22 ment, agency, or entity.

23 (b) LEGISLATIVE BRANCH.—Travel supervisors in
24 the legislative branch shall be—

1 (1) Senators, Representatives, Delegates, and
2 Resident Commissioners for their travel and travel
3 by members of their personal staffs;

4 (2) committee chairmen for travel by members
5 of their committees and committee staff;

6 (3) the Speaker of the House of Representa-
7 tives and the minority leader of the House of Rep-
8 resentatives, or their designees, for other employees
9 of the House of Representatives or travel authorized
10 by the full House of Representatives;

11 (4) the majority and minority leaders of the
12 United States Senate, or their designees, for other
13 employees of the United States Senate or travel au-
14 thorized by the full United States Senate; and

15 (5) the head of each agency of the legislative
16 branch, or their designee, in the case of employees
17 of those agencies.

18 (c) JUDICIAL BRANCH.—Travel supervisors in the ju-
19 dicial branch shall be—

20 (1) the Chief Justice of the United States Su-
21 preme Court, or his designee, in the case of the Su-
22 preme Court and its employees;

23 (2) the chief judge of each United States Cir-
24 cuit Court of Appeals, or their designee, in the case
25 of each Circuit Court of Appeals and its employees;

1 (3) the chief judge of each United States dis-
2 trict or territorial court, or their designee, in the
3 case of each District or Territorial Court and its em-
4 ployees;

5 (4) the chief judges of the United States Claims
6 Court, the United States Court of International
7 Trade, the United States Court of Military Appeals,
8 the United States Tax Court, the United States
9 Court of Veterans Appeals, the District of Columbia
10 Court of Appeals, and the District of Columbia Su-
11 perior Court, or their designees, in the case of each
12 of these courts and their employees; and

13 (5) the Director of the Administrative Office of
14 the United States Courts, or his designee, in the
15 case of all other employees of the judicial branch.

16 **SEC. 4. RESTRICTIONS APPLICABLE TO FEDERAL GOVERN-**
17 **MENT TRAVEL.**

18 (a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsections

19 (b) and (c) all Federal Government travel shall be—

20 (1) approved in advance by the travel super-
21 visor of the department, agency, or entity involved;

22 (2) accomplished by the most economical means
23 conveniently possible; and

24 (3) accomplished by United States commercial
25 carrier wherever possible, unless, as determined by

1 the travel supervisor, an alternative means is more
2 economical or necessary to achieve the goal of the
3 mission.

4 (b) ADDITIONAL RESTRICTIONS ON LEGISLATIVE
5 BRANCH FOREIGN TRAVEL.—All legislative branch for-
6 eign travel shall be—

7 (1) approved in advance by recorded vote of the
8 committee in the case of travel by a committee mem-
9 ber or committee staff, or approved in advance by
10 the appropriate travel supervisor in all other cases;

11 (2) accomplished by the most economical means
12 conveniently possible; and

13 (3) accomplished by United States commercial
14 carrier wherever possible, unless, as determined by
15 the travel supervisor, an alternative means is more
16 economical or necessary to achieve the goal of the
17 mission.

18 (c) EXEMPTION FROM ADVANCE APPROVAL RE-
19 QUIREMENT.—Except as otherwise provided by law or reg-
20 ulation, advance approval shall not be required for travel
21 which either—

22 (1) does not require an individual to spend the
23 night away from their principal residence or place of
24 employment; or

1 (2) is undertaken under emergency cir-
2 cumstances as defined in written guidelines estab-
3 lished by the appropriate travel supervisor.

4 **SEC. 5. GUIDELINES AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR**
5 **FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TRAVEL.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—Each travel supervisor shall, with
7 respect to the department, agency, or entity involved—

8 (1) in order to prevent duplicative and unneces-
9 sary trips, establish written guidelines for Federal
10 Government travel; and

11 (2) not later than the end of each calendar
12 quarter, file a report with respect to such travel dur-
13 ing the preceding calendar quarter.

14 (b) REPORT CONTENTS.—Each report filed pursuant
15 to subsection (a) shall, with respect to each trip—

16 (1) specify the purpose and agenda of the trip,
17 including its duration and the places visited;

18 (2) provide the name and position of each em-
19 ployee and any other person who accompanies the
20 employee at Government expense;

21 (3) in the case of air transportation by other
22 than United States commercial carrier, describe any
23 determination under section 4(a)(3) or 4(b)(3);

24 (4) state the accomplishments of the trip; and

1 (5) state the amount of each category of ex-
2 penses incurred for the trip, including separate cat-
3 egories for travel, food, and lodging, or per diem for
4 food and lodging.

5 (c) FILING.—Each report under this section shall be
6 filed with—

7 (1) the Administrator of General Services in the
8 case of executive branch or independent agency trav-
9 el;

10 (2) the Clerk of the United States House of
11 Representatives or the Secretary of the United
12 States Senate in the case of legislative branch travel;
13 and

14 (3) the Director of the Administrative Office of
15 the United States Courts in the case of judicial
16 branch travel.

17 **SEC. 6. AVAILABILITY OF REPORTS.**

18 Not later than fifteen days after a report is filed
19 under this Act, the Administrator of General Services, the
20 Director of the Administrative Office of the United States
21 Courts, the Clerk of the House of Representatives, or the
22 Secretary of the Senate, as applicable, shall—

23 (1) make the report available for public inspec-
24 tion; and

1 (2) provide copies of the report to any person,
2 either upon payment of a fee sufficient to cover the
3 expense of reproduction and mailing (other than any
4 salary expense) or at a lesser fee if, determined by
5 the Administrator, Director, Clerk, or Secretary, as
6 applicable, such lesser fee is in the public interest.
7 At the end of the six-year period after the date of
8 filing, each report shall be destroyed unless such re-
9 port is required in an ongoing investigation.

10 **SEC. 7. DEFINITIONS.**

11 As used in this Act—

12 (1) the term “Federal Government travel”
13 means travel by any employee (including any elected
14 or appointed officer) of the United States;

15 (2) the term “legislative branch travel” means
16 travel by a Senator or Representative in, or a Dele-
17 gate or Resident Commissioner to, the Congress or
18 by an employee (including an elected officer) of the
19 Senate or the House of Representatives or any agen-
20 cy of the legislative branch;

21 (3) the term “agency of the legislative branch”
22 means the Office of the Architect of the Capitol, the
23 Botanic Garden, the General Accounting Office, the
24 Government Printing Office, the Library of Con-
25 gress, the Office of Technology Assessment, the

1 Congressional Budget Office, and any other entity in
2 the legislative branch;

3 (4) the term “foreign travel” means travel out-
4 side the United States; and

5 (5) the term “United States”, where used in a
6 geographical sense, means the States of the United
7 States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth
8 of Puerto Rico, and the territories and possessions
9 of the United States.

10 **SEC. 8. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

11 This Act shall take effect one hundred and eighty
12 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

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